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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: E/XA -- Phil Clutts

INFO: E/V -- Joel Levy (w/out attachments)  
E/VG -- Anthony Chillura, Acting (w/out attachments)

FROM: E/VGN -- Richard Schmierer

SUBJECT: FOIA Request on Afghan IV Program

DATE: July 21, 1989

REF.: Letter from Steven R. Galster, July 6, 1989

The following information is provided in response to the subject FOIA request concerning the USIA International Visitor (IV) Grants Program for Afghans.

An IV grants program for Afghan refugees was initiated during Fiscal Year 1988. During FY 88 16 Afghans participated in the IV program, all in group projects. Four were in multi-regional ("world-wide") group projects, as follows:

Mr. Zainul Abuddin Mumtaz, in the project on "American Federalism" (March 28 - April 22, 1988); Mr. Mumtaz is a Senior Research Associate for Current Affairs, Writers Union of Free Afghanistan;

Mr. Asmatullah Rohani and Mr. Abdul Karim Moheb, in the project on "Crime and Justice" (June 6 - July 1, 1988); Mr. Rohani is an independent researcher and writer (previously Chief Judge of the Provincial Court, Paktia Province, Afghanistan); Mr. Moheb is a Research Associate, Writers Union of Free Afghanistan (previously Judge of the Provincial High Court, Kabul Province);

Mr. S. Jalal Hamid, in the project on "Issue and Delegate Selection: the June 7 Primaries" (April 18 - May 13, 1988); Mr. Hamid is a Military Instructor, Military College of the "Jamat-I-Islami," Dara, Northwest Frontier Province, Pakistan;

During FY 88 the NEA office of the IV grants program division (E/VGN) arranged two single-country group projects for Afghans, with six participants in each, one on "Press and Information in the U.S." (August 7 - September 3, 1988), and one on "U.S. Political Processes and Institutions" (August 15 - September 9, 1988). Full details on both of these projects are contained in the attached materials.

During FY 89 19 Afghans have participated in the IV program, again all in group projects. Five have participated in multi-regional group projects, as follows:

Mr. Sayyed Mahmoud Farani, in the project on "The Role of Religion in the U.S." (October 31 - November 29, 1988); Mr. Farani is the Political Advisor to the Leader of the "Jamiat-I-Islami" Party of the Islamic Unity of the Afghan Mujahedin;

Mr. Qaribur Rehman Saeed, in the project on "Decision-Making in U.S. Foreign Policy" (November 7 - December 2, 1988); Mr. Saeed is the Director of the Afghan News Agency in Islamabad, Pakistan, and a Senior Advisor to the leader of the "Hezb-E-Islami";

Mr. Aziz Osmani, in the project on "Teaching English as a Second Language" (February 27 - March 24, 1989); Mr. Osmani is the Manager, English Language Program, International Rescue Committee, Peshawar, Pakistan;

Dr. Mohammad Hussain Mohmand and Dr. Mohammad Azam Dadfar, in the project on "Public Health and Medical Services in the U.S." (May 8 - June 2, 1989); Dr. Mohmand is the Director of the Afghan Ob-Gyn Hospital in Peshawar, Pakistan, and Dr. Dadfar is the founder and Director of the Psychiatry Center for Afghans in Peshawar, Pakistan, and a former Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Kabul University Medical School.

During FY 89 E/VGN arranged two single-country group projects for Afghans, with seven participants in each, one on "U.S. Democratic Principles: Pluralism and the Protection of Minority Rights" (May 14 - June 12, 1989), and one on "U.S. Political Processes and Institutions" (May 22 - June 16, 1989). Full details on both of these projects are contained in the attached materials.

This represents a complete account of the Afghan IV grants program during the period 1979 through 1989, the period specified in the FOIA request.

Regards.